from forfeiture should be given only in cases where the tenant makes the payment at the "first hearing" of the suit. The Verumpattamdar who makes default in making the payment on the first hearing shall not also be entitled to any extension of time or condonation of delay. With a view to make this position clear, it is considered necessary to recast the clause.

8. Announcement of Bill assented to and dissented from by His Highness the Maharaja

Legislative Council Secretary: I have to announce that the following Bills passed by this Council have received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja.—

(1) The Cochin Factories Act (Amendment) Bill (Act VIII of 1121).
(2) The Cochin Payment of Salaries and Allowances Act (Amendment) Bill (Act IX of 1121)
(3) The Cochin Payment of Salaries and Allowances Act (Amendment) Bill (Act X of 1121)
(4) The Cochin Village Courts Act (Amendment) Bill (Act XII of 1121)
(5) The Cochin Vehicles Taxation Bill (Act XIII of 1121)
(6) The Cochin Government Savings Banks Bill (Act XIV of 1121)

I have also to announce that His Highness the Maharaja has been pleased to withold his assent to the Cochin Agriculturists Relief Act (Amendment) Bill which was passed by the Council.

9. Placing of the Statement of expenditure under Legislative Council Rules 58

Rao Sahib P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* Under rule 58 of the Legislative Council Rules, I beg to place the following statement of expenditure authorised by the Government under section 28 (1)(c) of the Government of Cochin Act, XX of 1113.

10. Presentation of the budget estimate for 1122 M. E.

Rao Sahib P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* Sir,

By your kind leave, I rise to present the budget estimate for 1122 M. E.

This time last year it was in a more optimistic mood that I introduced the budget estimate of the current year. With the complete collapse of the Third Reich preceded by the unconditional surrender of her western satellites and with the imminent total defeat of the Japanese in sight, it was thought that the great crisis had passed and that gradual restoration of normal conditions could be expected in the not distant future. Japan too was overthrown soon. These glorious achievements of arms have not, however, been followed by the return of peaceful conditions so far.

It is true our external enemies have collapsed; but we are still confronted by a frightening array of most dangerous adversaries—the most formidable being poverty, round whose axis revolves its attendant allies—ill-health, illiteracy, under-nourishment and un-employment. Famine threatens us more than ever; clothing has become too scarce; civilian building has been almost entirely neglected for over the last five years where a continually expanding programme is essential to meet the needs of a growing population; the development of our economy is retarded by the inability to obtain all the required capital equipment. In short, we are faced with all the great problems of life at this juncture—better food, better housing, more clothes, better hygiene and more enlightenment through education of both boys and girls. In the words of His Excellency the Viceroy the aim and endeavour of every one of us in the post-war years should be "to lift the poor man from poverty to security, from ill-helath to vigour and from ignorance to understanding".

It will be a source of great solace if the budget before the House would help even to a little extent in the solution of these burning problems of life and in building up the future.

I shall now proceed to review financial position for the current and the following year against this background. The details have all been enumerated at length in my Memorandum and the three speeches that have preceded me have rendered my task very light. I shall, however, make brief references to a few important features that merit attention.

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